

(*Printed for consideration.*)

Metropolitan Sewers.

Extract from the Minutes of the Works Committee, of the 11th
of June, 1849.

Resolved,

That these Rules and Regulations, as altered, be printed and sent to the Members of the Commission for their observations.

That the Bye-Laws Committee be requested to consider the wording of them, and to communicate their observations upon them to this Committee on Monday next, with a view to the presentation of the Rules in a complete state to the Court on the following Thursday, to be adopted as Bye Laws.

Rules and Regulations to be observed by Officers charged with the Preparation of Plans and the Superintendence of Works of House Drainage.

In the case of house-drainage to existing buildings, whether by order of the Court or on the application of private parties, copies of the detail plan and levels of the whole block of buildings of which those in question form a part should in every instance be applied for at the Map Office, No. 7 Hatton Garden; and if not already obtained, the Superintendent of the Survey should forthwith procure it.

The officer in charge being in possession of the complete plan of the particular block in each case, would be always enabled to determine the plan of drainage most advisable, instead of working by piecemeal with limited information. He would then examine, plan in hand, the whole of the particulars of the property of which a knowledge might be required, and report its capabilities for combined or separate drainage, its supply of water or facility for obtaining it, the state of the paving or other surface, the provision of dust-bins and other means of cleansing, adding the information necessary for a decision as to the interests affecting the property, whether it be a case for the distribution of the charges which would have to be incurred in its improvement.

In determining the direction and arrangement of the drainage, the officer should pay the utmost attention to secure, as far as practicable, the shortest course, the greatest inclination, and the readiest combination of the branch drains and traps. Having decided on the most advisable arrangement, he should then compute the area of the surface to be drained, and determine by the table the graduated sizes of the main. Every inlet to the drains of each house should be accurately marked, and the dimensions of the branches therefrom be carefully fixed.

In the execution of the work in public places, the excavations should be securely fenced, and properly lighted and watched.

Excavations of the exact form and depth for each line of drainage should be made and tested before any pipes are laid; and if any irregularities occur in the foundation, they should be made sound and even with clay, clean gravel, or other approved material, well rammed. When the pipes have been laid, the sides should be carefully filled in, and well rammed to keep them in place before they are covered and the work of filling in the trenches commences. The levels and workmanship of the pipe-laying should then be tested before they are covered in. The best materials and workmanship only should be allowed: any imperfection in either must immediately be remedied. The direc-

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tions of the Commissioners as to qualities of materials and workmanship should be strictly attended to, and no other forms or description of materials and apparatus should be permitted without the previous inspection and approval of the superior officer.

No junctions or curves other than those approved by the Commissioners should on any account be allowed.

No pipe should join another of larger size without one or more intermediate tapering lengths. All openings should be trapped, and, where practicable, at their inlet. The siphon should be of the same bore as the drain.

Where siphons are inserted, bell-traps should be disused ; but where there are good bell-traps with covers securely fixed, siphons need not be added.

Whenever whole socket-pipes are used, they should invariably be put together "dry," and the joints afterwards filled round with approved cement ; and the utmost care should be taken that no rubbish or obstruction of any kind be left in the drains.

Every inlet should be securely protected.

All old drains and cesspools, when done with, should at once be emptied and abolished, every care being taken that this work is performed in such a manner, and with such appliances, as to cause as little annoyance as possible. Their site should be filled in with good dry rubbish or earth, well rammed.

Every portion of the work before covering in should be inspected by the officer ; and he should add to the plan his certificate of the work having been so examined, and found to be of proper materials and workmanship, and to be correctly laid in every respect.

No private work of drainage should be allowed connexion with the sewers without a previous examination and certificate by the officer to the effect, that it has been properly laid, that adequate covers to the inlets have been fixed, and that no danger of stoppage or inconvenience would be likely to arise from it.

The inclinations and sizes of the drains, and the depth of a certain part beneath any fixed contiguous point, to which reference can be readily made, should be invariably recorded upon the plan : the name of the contractor or other party executing the work, with the date of its commencement and completion, should be also noted thereon. A section of the deepest portion of the work, exhibiting the nature of the ground which has been met with in the excavations, should be supplied.

Whenever any new private drainage shall not have been completed in every respect according to the rules laid down, or any old drains or cesspools shall not have been removed, the facts should be at once reported to the superior officer.

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